



# Board of Transportation Safety

## Meeting Minutes

02/02/06

**DRAFT**

VDOT, Richmond, Virginia

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**Chair:** Dee Bowles

**Recording Secretary:**

Audrey Odum

**Board Members Present:** Dee Bowles, Bruce Wingo, Melvin Robertson, Walter Yeatts  
Charles Rosemond, Judy Suddith, Seldon Rhodes, Charles Quillin  
Tom McGrath, Allen Muchnick

**Board Members Absent:** Paulette Benson, Rebecca Martin

**DMV Staff:** David Mitchell, James Bradford, John Saunders, Audrey Odum  
David Mosley, Angelisa Jennings, Kathy Aebischer, Judy Whitesides

**Special Guest(s):** Deputy Secretary Ralph Davis  
Vince Burgess, Commissioner of Veterans Affairs  
Paul Henegar, John Mazza, John Coates (Past Board Members)

Acting Chair Dee Bowles called meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

Deputy Secretary Ralph Davis gave welcoming remarks and briefly presented Governor Kaine's Transportation Initiative. Deputy Secretary Davis also recognized the DMV staff and thanked them for the statistical information that is regularly furnished. He commented that Governor Kaine feels this is valuable information.

**Action:** Staff to work with Secretary's office to obtain a point sheet on the Governor's Transportation Initiative and furnish Board a copy.

Deputy Commissioner David Mitchell briefly addressed the group and thanked the TSB members for taking the time to volunteer their service to the Board. He recognized their commitment to and emphasized the important work they conduct on behalf of transportation safety.

Acting Chair Dee Bowles asked Secretary to the Board, David Mitchell to call roll. Representation was sufficient for a quorum.

**Board Business**

Acting Chair Dee Bowles recognized the past Board members with a recommended and approved resolution from the Board, thanking them for their service and commitment to the Board and transportation safety. Vince Burgess was also recognized for his prior service as Secretary to the Board and for his years of dedication as the Governor's Highway Safety Coordinator.

**Action:** Requested staff to forward past Board member Gloria Berkley her Resolution.

Acting Chair Dee Bowles asked the Board to review for approval the minutes from the November 2005 meeting. Approved with no amendments.

Acting Chair Dee Bowles asked Walter Yeatts, Chair of the 2006 Nominating Committee, to give a report from the committee. Walter Yeatts recognized the other two members of the Committee, Allen Muchnick and Melvin Robertson. Chairman Yeatts brought forth one nominee, Dee Bowles, for the position of Chair of the Board of Transportation Safety. Acting Chair, Dee Bowles thanked the Nominating Committee and called for other nominations from the floor. None were received. The nominations were closed. Dee Bowles, by acclamation, will serve as Chair to the Board of Transportation Safety.

Chairman Yeatts brought forth three nominees for the Vice-Chair position. He briefly discussed the decision to bring forth a slate consisting of all three candidates for a full Board vote. The three nominees were Paulette Benson, Charles Rosemond, and Bruce Wingo. Chairman Yeatts stated that all three candidates were well qualified and offered a lot of expertise and commitment to the field of transportation safety. Ballots were distributed and a vote taken. The vote ended with a tie between Charles Rosemond and Bruce Wingo. Chairman Yeatts asked for a vote to be taken by the Board to resolve the tie between candidates. New ballots were distributed and a vote taken. Chairman Yeatts submitted to the Board a slate consisting of one name, Charles Rosemond, the winner by ballot vote. Chair Dee Bowles thanked the Nominating Committee and called for other nominations from the floor. None were received. Charles Rosemond was voted in and recognized as Vice-Chair.

David Mitchell gave a brief update of transportation safety legislation for the 2006 General Assembly Session.

Chair Dee Bowles asked David Mitchell to give update of past action statements. David asked staff members to address the following items:

David Mosley - **Enforcement Activity Report**

Board was furnished with an updated activity report regarding citizens' concerns on grants covering overtime enforcement, etc. Staff will continue to update report to include more detailed information relating to warnings/citations and other critical data on enforcement activities being funded with federal funds. This report will be provided twice a year to the Board (July at grant review meeting and January for the end of year report.)

**Action:** Board would like future activity report to include types of roadways where enforcement is taking place.

Angelisa Jennings – **Youth Trends**

Board requested staff to look at data to determine if there may be any trends between high school and college/university students. Board was furnished with data for the age groups 15-17 and 18-21. The data showed no variance between the two age groups in regards to drivers involved in crashes by time of crash and by driver action.

**Action:** Board would like same type of data on mature drivers.

Kristen Allen – **Mid-Atlantic Region Primary Seatbelt States**

Board previously requested information on other states within the Mid-Atlantic Region that had a primary seatbelt law. Kristen Allen from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration furnished the Board summary documentation that included the states of Delaware, District of Columbia and Maryland. (Note: the Mid-Atlantic Region includes 6 states: Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.)

Based on statistics provided, in an effort to enhance safety, the Board made a motion to prepare and submit a letter of support or adopt a resolution offering support for a primary seatbelt law. Nine members were in favor. One member was not in favor.

**Action:** Board requested staff to review with their Legal and Legislative Office the correct process and procedure for the Board to offer a letter of support or Board –Adopted Resolution to support primary seatbelt legislation.

Once determined, staff is requested to prepare letter/resolution on behalf of the Board. Board will review and approve for staff to finalize for distribution.

**Standing Reports**

Angelisa Jennings provided an overview of crash statistics.

**Action:** Board requested school bus crash data.

Kathy Aebischer presented the year-to-date Financial Report.

**NHTSA Update**

Kristen Allen provided a brief update on SAFTEA-LU

- Child Passenger Safety Incentive Money – VA does not qualify for the grant because the Code of Virginia only covers up to age 6; the federal grant requires up to age 8.
- Funds – Primary Seatbelt
- Emphasis on Media and Enforcement Efforts (CIOT)
- Boosterseat.gov for more information

### *New Business from Floor*

David Mosley discussed previous grant submissions that had been approved for an increase if funds became available. The following grants were increased.

- Norfolk State from \$50,000 to \$66,000
- Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000
- Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission from \$12,500 to \$25,000
- Eastern VA Medical School from \$35,000 to \$40,000
- Carilion Health Systems from \$260,000 to \$300,000
- Prince William County Schools from \$75,000 to \$125,000
- Virginia Commonwealth University from \$47,000 to \$55,592

David Mosley also presented to the Board a new grant request for Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System (CODES). CODES in Virginia combines information on motor vehicle crashes from DMV; emergency services/trauma registry (ambulances and other rescue vehicles); hospital discharge data and vital records. This information will provide details on costs and severity of crashes and will be of great value to support transportation safety policy, legislation and general public education. Board approved for \$36,000.

John Saunders reviewed the current grant procedures and read an outline of the proposed revisions to the Grant Review Process. He then turned to David Mitchell who expanded on this process. David Mitchell discussed the importance of using good data to move to a more performance-based grants selection process. He discussed the need for setting data driven goals with measurable results. This process will ensure that Virginia's transportation safety program maintains current success while awarding funding to areas that have immediate, identified problems. In addition, David Mitchell asked the Board to consider a new grant review process that would provide grantees more time on the front end to work through their local process to complete grant documentation. This will also provide the Allocations Committee the "first time" opportunity to participate in the review process at the same time the Program Managers are making their grant funding recommendations and decisions. David Mitchell stated that even though it may take 1-2 grant cycles to get the new process fully implemented, this new course of action will provide a more comprehensive grant review process. Board approved both recommendations.

Chair Dee Bowles asked Bruce Wingo and Charles Quillin to serve on the Awards Committee with Bruce serving as Chair.

**Action:** Asked staff to contact Rebecca Martin to see if she is willing to serve on this Committee.

Chair Dee Bowles asked Charles Rosemond, new Vice-Chair of the Board to serve as Chair to the Allocations Committee with Walter Yeatts and Judith Suddith as committee members.

**Public Comment** - None

*Dates of Future Meetings -*

May 9-11, 2006  
Annual Conference on Transportation Safety  
Blacksburg, VA (VA TECH)

July 11, 2006  
Full Board Meeting – FY07 Grant Review  
DMV Hdqters. - Richmond